DONALD M. PAYNE, JR. 10th District, New Jersey

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, AC 20515

March 31, 2023

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The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations H-305 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the South Ward Promise Neighborhood Community Grocery Store Project in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity receive funding for this project is the South Ward Promise Neighborhood, located at 534 Clinton Avenue, Newark, NJ, 07108. This project will remove a dilapidated/blighted building to rehab and turn into the community grocery store. The South Ward Promise Neighborhood Grocery Store will benefit low to moderate-income persons in the South Ward of Newark, NJ and will remove blight by rehabbing an existing blighted building. This is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the community grocery store will meet the urgent need of increasing food access to the community that is designated a food desert by the state of New Jersey; which will address the serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the South Ward, NJ. The South Ward Promise Neighborhood Grocery Store will also include classes on nutrition, cooking culturally appropriate healthy cuisine, and smart food buying, and grocery budgeting.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

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Donald M. Payne, Jr. Member of Congress